

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 01820 100528Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 /053 W

-----022871 101505Z /64

R 091150Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6741  
COMIDEASTFOR  
INFO USS VREELAND  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
CNO WASHDC  
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK  
ADMIN COMIDEASTFOR  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
AEMBASSY KHARTOUM 638  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1820

ROME PLS PASS AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MPOL, SO, US  
SUBJ: OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAM FOR THE USS VREELAND VISIT

REF: MOGADISCIO 1814 DTG 091000Z AUG 78

1. NOW THAT THE SOMALIS HAVE APPROVED THE VISIT OF THE USS VREELAND IT SEEMS TO EMBASSY APPROPRIATE TO REVIEW THE OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT, AND ATTEMPT TO TAILOR THE PROGRAM ACCORDINGLY. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE, EMBASSY SEES THE VISIT AS AN INDICATION OF THE USG'S INTEREST IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (GSDR). THE VISIT, AS WE UNDERSTAND  
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IT, IS ALSO A STEP DESIGNED TO BUY TIME AND KEEP US POLICY OPTIONS VIS A VIS SOMALIA OPEN. EMBASSY BELIEVES THESE ARE REASONABLE AND REALISTIC OBJECTIVES, BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT ONE SHIP VISIT OR EVEN A SERIES OF NAVAL VISITS WILL SATISFY THE GSDR DESIRE FOR A CLOSER SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. EMBASSY, HOWEVER, APPLAUDS THE VREELAND VISIT AS A USEFUL INTERIM STEP.

2. WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND EMBASSY WILL PROCEED TO URGE A SUITABLE PROGRAM THAT WILL UNDERSCORE THE PRESENCE OF THE US NAVY IN MOGADISCIO, BUT WILL NOT BE SO ELABORATE AS TO GIVE THE VISIT A HIGHER PROFILE THAN IT DESERVES. UNTIL WE HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS FROM THE SOMALI SIDE WE CANNOT BE MORE SPECIFIC, BUT OBVIOUSLY WE WILL NOT PRESS FOR MARCHING BANDS AND A PARADE OF THE SHIP'S COMPANY THROUGH THE DOWNTOWN STREETS OF THE CAPITAL. ON THE OTHER HAND, EMBASSY DOES BELIEVE THE VISIT OUGHT BE TERMED "A VISIT OF COURTESY" PER 2 FAM 342.1 SO THAT OUR ALREADY STRETCHED REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS CAN MEET SOME OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR WHAT WILL BE THE AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE TO DETERMINE THE FIRST US NAVY VISIT TO A SOMALI PORT IN MORE THAN NINE YEARS. WE DO BELIEVE MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC COURTESY CALLS ARE MANDATORY, THAT SHIP'S COMPANY SHOULD HAVE LIBERTY IN UNIFORM, AND THAT SOME FORM OF ATHLETIC ENDEAVOR WITH THE SOMALI MILITARY WOULD BE IN ORDER. MORE THOUGHTS FOLLOW AFTER WE HAVE HAD OUR CONTACT WITH THE SOMALI NAVY PLANNERS.

3. AS A FURTHER POINT OF INFORMATION, THE SOMALI DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER SAID IT WAS NORMAL GSDR PRACTICE TO ANNOUNCE SHIP VISITS TWENTY-FOUR HOURS BEFORE THE SHIP IS SCHEDULED TO ENTER THE HARBOR. WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS, BUT WOULD LIKE TO BE IN A POSITION TO INFORM THE SOMALIS IN ADVANCE IF THE USG WISHES TO ANNOUNCE THE VISIT EARLIER.  
VOUGHT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS, VREELAND USS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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